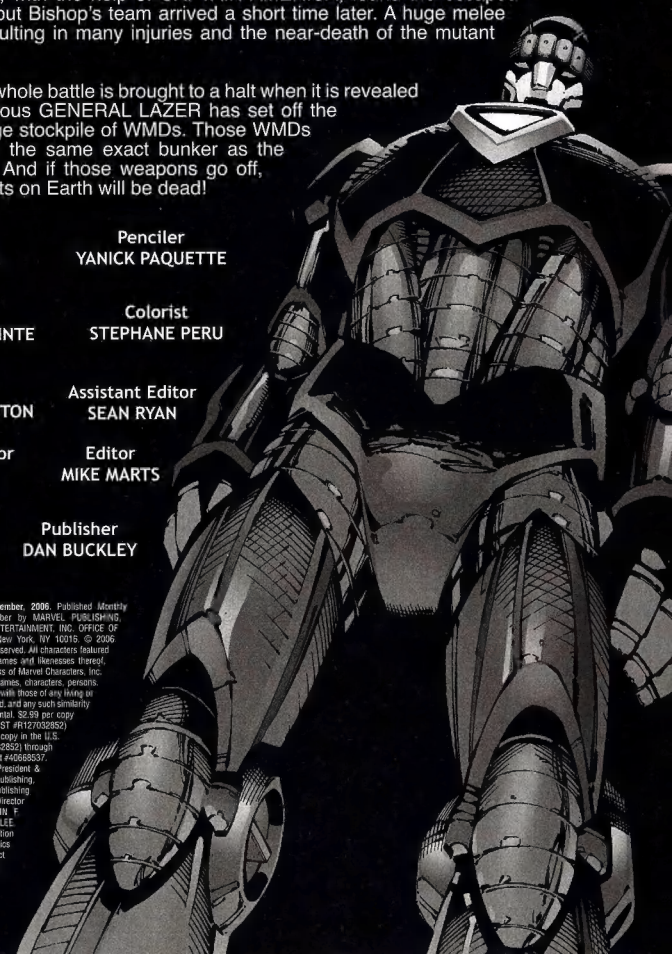
Previously in Civil War: X-Men

The 198 escaped. Broken out by renegade mutants DOMINO and SHATTERSTAR, the mutants who took refuge at the Xavier Institute were on the run.

Two camps made it their mission to find these mutants. One camp is led by the X-Man BISHOP, and he has the full support of IRON MAN and the OFFICE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY. The other camp is made up of the four original X-Men: ICEMAN, ARCHANGEL, BEAST, and CYCLOPS.

Cyclops' team, with the help of CAPTAIN AMERICA, found the escaped mutants first, but Bishop's team arrived a short time later. A huge melee broke out, resulting in many injuries and the near-death of the mutant MICROMAX.

However, the whole battle is brought to a halt when it is revealed that the traitorous GENERAL LAZER has set off the timer for a large stockpile of WMDs. Those WMDs are located in the same exact bunker as the escaped 198. And if those weapons go off, half the mutants on Earth will be dead!



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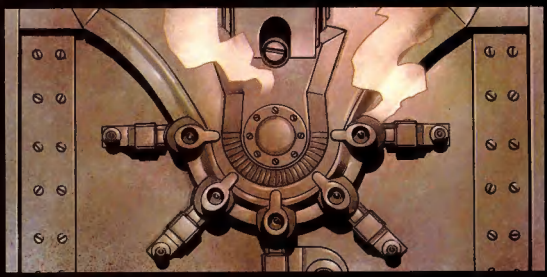
THE NEVADA DESERT.
MICROMAX?
MICROMAX, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
Y-YEAH. WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WHAT'S ALL THE NOISE?
THE 198 ARE TRAPPED INSIDE THE BUNKER. THE WHOLE PLACE IS SET TO BLOW IN ABOUT A HALF-HOUR.
THE SENTINELS ARE HUFFING AND PUFFING, TRYING TO BLOW THE DOOR DOWN.
AND YOU APPEAR TO HAVE TRANSFORMED INTO A POT-BELLIED DWARF.
YOU NEVER SAID YOU WERE A SHAPE-SHIFTER.
RATHER YOU HADN'T SEEN THAT, SABRA.
SO THIS IS THE REAL SCOTT WRIGHT.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN SO GLAD YOU DIDN'T GET DE-POWERED ON M-DAY.
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
IT HURTS WHEN I LAUGH.
I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THIS TO HAPPEN, DOMINO. I PLANNED TO DISABLE HIM, NOT KILL HIM.
NO ONE'S BLAMING YOU, SHATTERSTAR.
YEAH, RIGHT...

THIS FACILITY WILL AUTO-DESTRUCT IN FIFTY-FIVE MINUTES.
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY REGRETS ANY LOSS OF LIFE.
PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ALL OUTSIDE LINES OF COMMUNICATION HAVE NOW BEEN CLOSED.
THIS IS HOPELESS. IT'S LIKE USING A PEASHOOTER ON A SHERMAN TANK.
INTERNET'S DOWN, OUTSIDE SECURITY CAMERAS ARE DEAD AND WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE.
FORGET THAT, LET'S JUST FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET THESE SODDING DOORS OPEN.
IF YOU'D LISTENED TO ME, WE'D BE LONG GONE, TOADY.
IN MY CASE, OF COURSE, DEATH IS NOT THE END. WHEN YOU CAN REGENERATE--
SCALPHUNTER, YOU ARE GETTING RIGHT UP MY NOSE.
I'M SORRY IT'S NOT MY FAULT
THIS ISN'T A GOOD SIGN...
WAIT! THE DOOR'S VIBRATING.
I THINK SOMEONE'S TRYING TO GET IN...

HIT IT WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!
THIS THING HAS TO HAVE A WEAK POINT!
FZZAAASH!
WAP!
BLAM!!!

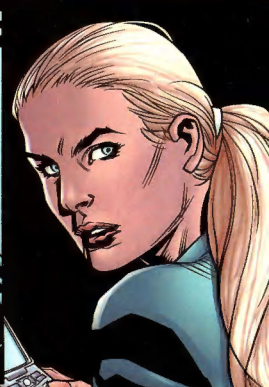
THAT'S ENOUGH!
LET'S SEE HOW TOUGH STARK BUILT THIS THING.



WE DIDN'T EVEN SCRATCH IT.
WE SCRATCHED IT, BISHOP.
I DEFINITELY SEE A SCRATCH.
THERE'S NO WAY THAT DOOR IS COMING DOWN IN TIME.

VAL, YOU WERE RIGHT. WE AREN'T GOING TO GET THEM OUT. WE'LL KEEP TRYING, BUT THE TRUTH IS, YOU'RE OUR LAST BEST HOPE.
YOU HAVE TO PERSUADE LAZER TO SHUT DOWN THE DESTRUCT SEQUENCE.

IF YOU DON'T, EVERYONE IN THAT BUNKER IS GOING TO DIE.



OFFICE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY
INTERROGATION ROOM.
THE PENTAGON.
YOU SHOULDN'T BE SMILING, LAZER. THE POSITION YOU'RE IN--
IT'S TRUE, I'M NOT ENTIRELY HAPPY ABOUT THIS. THE END OF A GLITTERING CAREER AND ALL THAT. BUT THE SITUATION HAS ITS COMPENSATIONS.
THE IDEA OF EVERY MUTANT ON EARTH HAVING A SINGLE THROAT AND MY HANDS AROUND IT--
--SQUEEZING...
LET'S CUT TO THE CHASE.
YOU KNOW WHAT I NEED FROM YOU.
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW *WHY* I DID IT? DON'T YOU WANT TO POKE AROUND IN MY HEAD, FIND OUT WHY I *HATE* MUTANTS SO MUCH?
IN MY EXPERIENCE, BIGOTS AREN'T WORTH GETTING TO KNOW, AND I JUST *DON'T* HAVE THE TIME.
ALL I WANT FROM YOU IS THE SHUTDOWN CODE.
THERE'S NO THREAT YOU COULD MAKE--
I'M NOT MAKING ANY THREATS.
I'M NOT GOING TO USE TRUTH DRUGS OR PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE.
THAT WOULD TAKE FAR TOO LONG. WE BOTH KNOW THAT.
I'M GOING TO USE THIS.
I'M GOING TO SMASH YOUR KNEECAPS, ONE AT A TIME.
THEN I'M GOING TO KILL YOU.

HOW'S MICROMAX DOING?
HE'S SLIPPING AWAY. I GAVE HIM MORPHINE. I'M NOT SURE THERE'S ANYTHING MORE I CAN DO.
MAYBE I CAN.
WILL THIS WORK?
WARREN'S BLOOD HAS HEALING PROPERTIES.
IF THEY'RE COMPATIBLE, IT MAY SAVE HIM.
BZZ-BZZ
VAL? HOW DID YOU DO? DID LAZER TALK?
LAZER'S DEAD. HIS NECK SNAPPED, RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.
IT'S OVER.

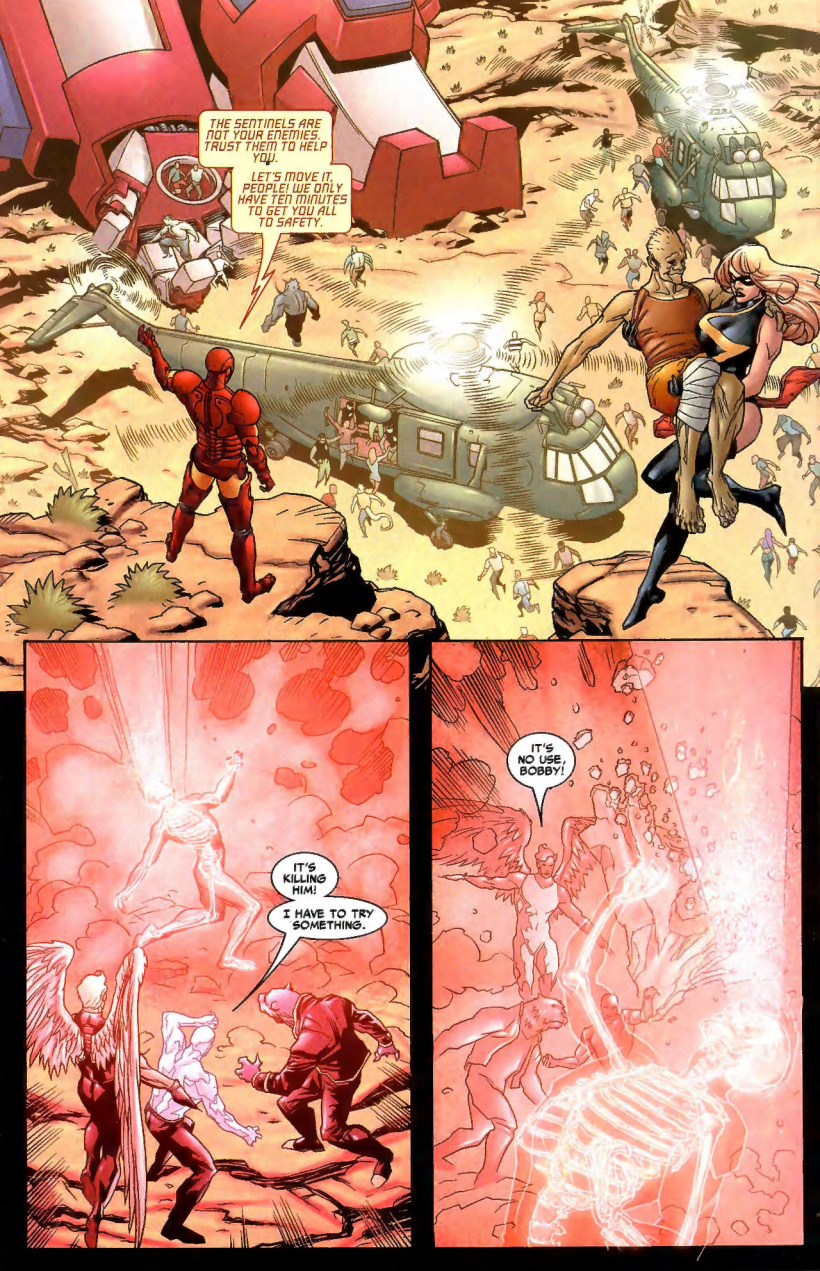
LEAVE HIM WITH US, MA'AM. HIS READINGS ARE GOOD.
IF HE REMAINS STABLE UNTIL WE CAN GET HIM INTO SURGERY, I THINK HE'LL MAKE IT.
BISHOP?
WE WON'T BE GETTING THE CODE.
DAMMIT, SCOTT. I DROVE THE 198 INTO A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.
THE BUNKER MAY NOT CONTAIN THE EXPLOSION. WE NEED TO GET EVERYONE AWAY.
ARE YOU GIVING UP, OR DO YOU WANT TO TRY SOMETHING?
LIKE WHAT?
SOMETHING INSANELY DANGEROUS. SOMETHING THAT REQUIRES US TO TRUST ONE ANOTHER COMPLETELY.
SOMETHING THAT WILL PROBABLY KILL US BOTH.

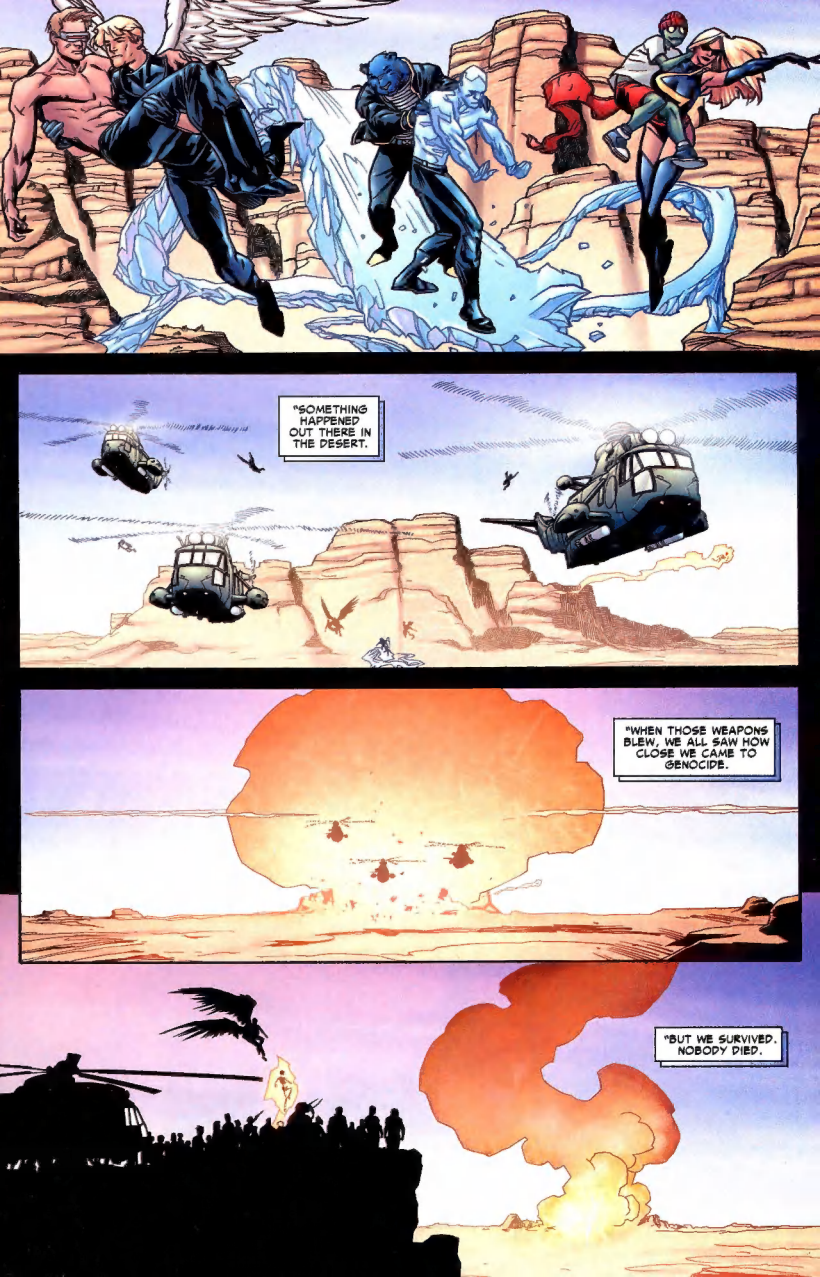
SERGEANT FOLEY, MAKE SURE THE AREA IS CLEARED. PULL EVERYONE BACK AT LEAST FIVE KLIKS.
KEEP THE CHOPPERS IN RANGE TO PICK UP THE 198. IF WE DON'T GET THE DOOR OPEN WITHIN TEN MINUTES BEFORE DETONATION, FORGET IT AND GET THE HELL OUT.
ARE WE RUNNING OUT ON THE 198?
BISHOP AND I ARE GOING TO TRY SOMETHING.
YOU SAW WHAT BISHOP DID TO THAT SENTINEL WHEN HE CHANNELED MY FULL POWER--
IF WE CAN DO IT AGAIN, MAYBE WE CAN GET THAT DOOR OPEN.
THAT'S A HUGE RISK, SCOTT. IF YOU HAD A SUBCONSCIOUS BLOCK, IT WAS FOR A REASON. ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN.
THIS IS A BAD TIME TO PUT IT TO THE TEST.
IT'S THE ONLY TIME.
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S RISKY. THAT'S WHY YOU'RE LEAVING.
THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO DO HERE.
YOU HEAR THAT? WE'RE LEAVING.
NOTHING FOR US TO DO HERE.
DO YOU DETECT THE NOTE OF IRONY, SCOTT?
DID YOU TELL THEM THEY HAVE TO PULL OUT?
I THINK THEY'RE HAVING A THREE MUSKETEERS MOMENT.
TIME'S WASTING, D'ARTAGNAN.

YOU READY?
LET'S DO THIS.
NNNNGGG
IS IT WORKING?
IT'S NOT WORKING--
GIVE IT TIME TO--
--OH NO.

DON'T WORRY, HANK. I'M HERE TO HELP.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? I'M READING POWER LEVELS OF ALMOST TWO GIGAWATTS COMING OFF BISHOP.
THEY'RE DOING WHAT IT TAKES, TONY.
IT APPEARS YOU BUILT THIS PLACE TO BE A LITTLE MORE ROBUST THAN YOUR AVERAGE NUCLEAR BUNKER.
THEY NEED TO STOP.
BOTH OF THEM ARE GOING TO SUSTAIN FATAL NEUROLOGICAL DAMAGE IF THEY KEEP THAT UP.
I THINK THEY KNOW THAT, TONY.
WELL, LET'S AT LEAST ENSURE THAT THEY DON'T KILL THEMSELVES FOR NOTHING.
CAROL, I NEED YOU TO DIRECT YOUR PHOTON BLASTS AT THE UPPER LEFT CORNER OF THE DOOR IN THREE-SECOND PULSES.
SENTINELS, MOVE INTO POSITION!
I'M INPUTTING YOUR ATTACK PATTERNS DIRECTLY THROUGH O*N*E COMMAND'S DATA STREAM.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PAID STARK INDUSTRIES CLOSE TO A BILLION DOLLARS TO MAKE THAT BUNKER IMPREGNABLE.
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE ME LOOK LIKE AN IDIOT.
COMMENCE FIRING!


THE SENTINELS ARE NOT YOUR ENEMIES. TRUST THEM TO HELP YOU.
LET'S MOVE IT, PEOPLE! WE ONLY HAVE TEN MINUTES TO GET YOU ALL TO SAFETY.
IT'S KILLING HIM!
I HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING.
IT'S NO USE, BOBBY!


"SOMETHING HAPPENED OUT THERE IN THE DESERT.
"WHEN THOSE WEAPONS BLEW, WE ALL SAW HOW CLOSE WE CAME TO GENOCIDE.
"BUT WE SURVIVED. NOBODY DIED.

"WHEN IT REALLY COUNTED, WE STOOD TOGETHER."

ARE THINGS OKAY WITH SCOTT AND THE X-MEN?
OKAY? NO--
--I DON'T KNOW.
WILL THEY TAKE YOU BACK?
THEY HAVEN'T SAID. I HAVEN'T ASKED.
SO, ARE YOU OPEN TO JOB OFFERS?
WITH THE O*N*E?
THE CONSENSUS ON CAPITOL HILL IS THAT THE O*N*E WAS GIVEN TOO MUCH DISCRETIONARY POWER AT THE EXPENSE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF MUTANTS.
THE PRESIDENT HAS APPOINTED AN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO THE ISSUES RAISED.
THEIR FIRST RECOMMENDATION IS TO USE THE XAVIER INSTITUTE AS A COMMUNITY FOR MUTANTS, ALONG THE LINES OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN RESERVATIONS.
RESIDENCY WILL BE VOLUNTARY BUT OPEN TO ALL MUTANTS, AND THE O*N*E WILL NO LONGER BE AUTHORIZED TO RESTRICT THEIR MOVEMENTS.
AND THE SENTINELS?
THE SENTINELS WILL REMAIN FOR PROTECTION, BUT THE MUTANTS CAN COME AND GO AS THEY PLEASE.
WE'D LOVE IF YOU'D COME ON BOARD.
LET ME THINK ABOUT IT, OKAY?